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Assignment of Forest area.

290. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) if the attention of the Government was drawn to the article "കാട്ടുകുന്നത്തിലെ ഇടവും കറിയും" in the '*Gomathy*' (ഗോമതി) Newspaper in its issue dated 10th Thulam 1106;

(b) what is the name of the person to whom the area of 500 acres in Kodasseri referred to in the article is to be assigned and what is the profession of this assignee; what is the estimate of forest growth and its value in the area proposed to be assigned;

(a) was there a proposal to convert this area into a teak plantation by the Sirkar; if so, why was it given up;

(d) whatare the terms under which the area is at present proposed to be assigned;

(e) was the forest growth notified for sale by public auction; if not, why not?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) Sreemathi V. K. Parukutti Naithyar Ammah Avergal, Jenmi. But the extent sanctioned to be assigned to her is only 131.33 acres. The value of the forest growth is estimated at Rs. 8,756-13-1. A copy of the list of the forest growth whose value is estimated is placed on the Council table.

(c) No.

(d) The area is proposed to be assigned after realising a land value of Rs. 3,033-15-4 and value of forest growth estimated at Rs. 8,756-13-1. The lands will be charged with assessment at the usual rates.

(e) No; it was considered unnecessary since the tree growth was valued.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know who is the petitioner?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Not Padmanabha Menon.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—In the face of the serious allegations made in the paper which I shall read—

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—We have read it.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—In the face of these serious allegations that the forest growth is worth Rs. 80 thousand, is there any objection to sell that by auction?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—I want notice.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—This statement was before the Government already. Then why should the Government

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want notice ? Why should not the Government be able to give an answer ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—It will be considered.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know whether in the assignment of Chittur Kanom lands the maximum was Rs. 75 and the minimum rate was Rs. 50?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—They were poor lands.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Is there any case in which such low rate was fixed ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Oh, yes.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I have a few instances, in Kodasseri ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Not now.

Kanam and Panayam Suits.

291. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state in a tabular form.—

(1) the total number of suits filed in the Civil Court of Original Jurisdiction in the State for redemption of Panayams akin to Kanam with the incidence of renewability (ordinary mortgage suits should not be included) every year from 1090 up to date;

(2) the number decreed every year;

(3) the number in which delivery of property has been taken;

(4) the number for which no execution has been taken;

(5) the number pending execution;

(6) the number pending trial?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(1), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6). Vide the statement appended. (*Vide Appendix III*).

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know what were the reasons which induced the Government to issue a proclamation staying panayam suits ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Because a bill was proposed to be introduced in the Council and for suits pending decision one way or the other a proclamation was necessary.

Bridge work—Chalakkudi—Mala road.

292. Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the bridge work in the Chalakkudi—Mala road has been started; if not, why not;

(b) whether the land acquisition is completed in this case; and if not, why not;

(c) if the work is not commenced on account of any delay in land acquisition, will they kindly expedite proceedings;

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